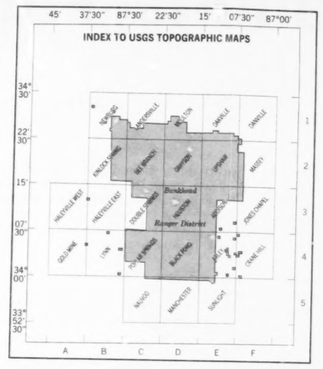
RECREATION SITES	LOCATION	BOATING	CAMPING	DRINKING WATER	FISHING	HIKING TRAILS	HORSE TRAILS	PICNICKING	SANITARY FACILITIES	SHOOTING	SWIMMING	TRAILER DUMP STATION	TRAILER SPACE
BRUSHY LAKE	D-2	LE	●	●	●	●		●	●				●
CORINTH	D-4	L	F	●	●			●	●		F	●	●
HOUSTON	D-4	L	F	●	●			●	●		F		●
HURRICANE CREEK	D-2									●			
CLEAR CREEK	D-4		●	●	●	●		●	●		●	●	●
OWL CREEK	E-2		●				●		●				
SIPSEY RIVER	C-2	A		●	●	●		●	●				

FEE AREA = F
LAUNCH RAMP = L
ELECTRICAL MOTORS ONLY = E
CARRY DOWN ACCESS = A



FOREST SERVICE MAP
Constructed at the Regional Office, Atlanta, Georgia in 1989 from U.S. Forest Service Primary Base Series and U.S. Geological Survey 7½' Quadrangles. Drafted at U.S. Forest Service Geometronics Center, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1981. Revised in 1985 from Regional Field Review. Status Current as of April 1989

Polyconic projection
1927 North American datum

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
R. MAX PETERSON, CHIEF

WILLIAM B. BANKHEAD NATIONAL FOREST
ALABAMA
HUNTSVILLE MERIDIAN

1985

Scale 1:126,720

1 ½ 0 1 2 3 4 5 Miles
1 ½ 0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers

LEGEND

- National Forest Boundary
- National Forest Land
- Wilderness Area
- District Ranger Office
- Other Forest Service Facility
- Recreation Site, Forest Service
- Shooting Range
- Located Object or Lookout Station
- Sipsey Fork and West Fork Wild and Scenic River
- Primary Highway
- Secondary Highway
- Improved Light Duty
- Unimproved Dirt
- Hiking Trail
- Horse Trail
- Monumented Corner
- Horizontal Control Station
- 278 U.S. Highway
- 157 State Highway
- 63 County Route
- 234 Forest Route
- 1007 Trail Route
- Church or School
- Cemetery
- Quarry

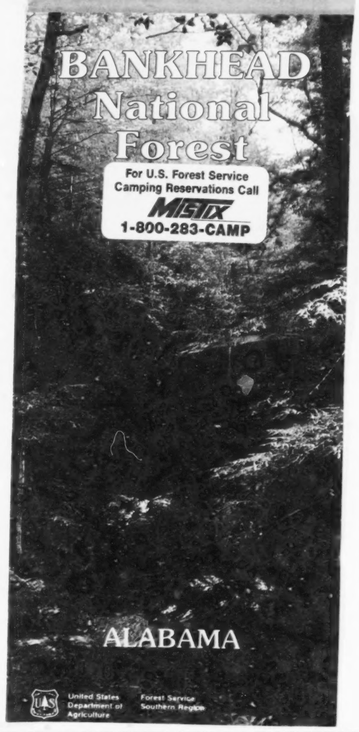
TOWNSHIP AND SECTION LINE CLASSIFICATION

- Surveyed, Location Reliable
- Surveyed, Location Approximate

Longitude west from Greenwich

Recreation Guide R8-RG 1 December 1986

The facilities, programs, and services of the Forest Service and the National Forests are for the use and enjoyment of all people. Discrimination against any person because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or physical condition is strictly against the policy of the USDA Forest Service, and should be reported to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.



BANKHEAD National Forest Alabama

THE FOREST

People think of a forest in many different ways. To some, the forest is a relaxing place to get back in touch with nature. Others, some of whom depend on the forest for their livelihood, think of it in terms of its natural resources. Still others might view a forest as a source for clean water, a home for wildlife, or perhaps as a living replica of the way life was not so long ago. A well-managed forest can be all of these things.

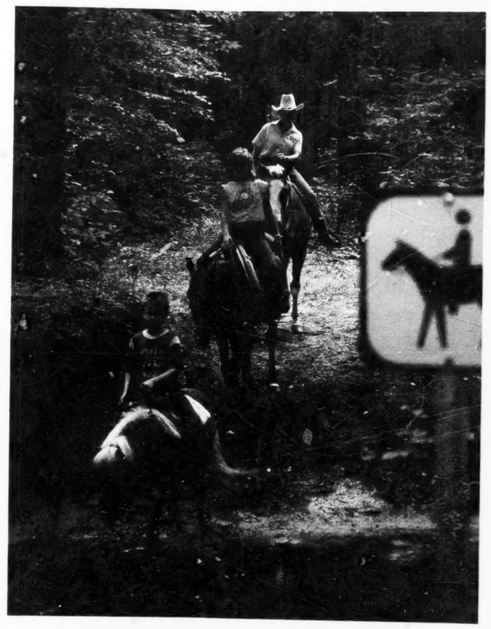
The Bankhead National Forest, located in northwestern Alabama, is such a forest. It is managed and protected by the Forest Service under the "multiple-use concept," which means managing the forest to provide the optimal blend of all its resources including wood, wildlife, recreation, wilderness, and water.

The Bankhead offers something for everyone. Its 180,000 acres include scenic beauty, tall trees, flowing streams, picturesque rock bluffs, and abundant wildlife. The rock cliffs that rise from the waters of Lake Lewis Smith and along the canyons of the Sipsey River are outstanding examples of the Bankhead's rugged beauty. Streams on the Bankhead often cascade over rock faces into deep canyons to form beautiful waterfalls.

TIMBER

Hardwoods stand tall in rich soils of sheltered coves or mix with pines on the drier slopes and ridges. Proper management of this timber provides a continuous supply of wood products needed to meet the Nation's needs, while still protecting the environment and enhancing wildlife.

The yearly harvest of wood yields over one million dollars. Of that, 25 percent is returned to counties, in which the forest is located, to be used for roads and schools. Additional income is generated to the local economy as National Forest timber is converted into finished products.



HUNTING AND FISHING

Hunting and fishing are allowed on the Bankhead and the forest is noted for outstanding trophy deer and a good turkey population. The Alabama Department of Conservation, Game and Fish Division, regulates seasons, bag limits and license fees for deer, turkey, small game and fish. For further information about seasons and limits, write Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Game and Fish Division, 64 North Union Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36130.

RECREATION

Whether you seek a quiet canoe trip, a chance to photograph wildflowers, an extended camping vacation, a simple picnic, or just the chance to study and enjoy nature, the Bankhead National Forest offers a wealth of opportunities.

Recreation sites are available through most of the year, except for those with water systems subject to damage from freezing weather.

Campgrounds on the Bankhead National Forest are designed so that each camp unit includes a parking space, tent/trailer pad, fireplace, table, and lantern posts. Water hydrants and sanitation facilities are a reasonable walking distance from each unit.

Camping is on a first-come, first-served basis. Visits are limited to 14 consecutive days at any one campground.

Fees are charged at the more developed sites on the Bankhead, including those on the 41,000-acre Lake Lewis Smith. Fee areas are marked with signs showing the amount of fee, method of payment, and general rules. A portion of these funds is used to protect and maintain the recreation areas.

The Golden Age and Golden Access Passports are valid on all Forest Service recreation areas. These passports entitle the bearers, and all who accompany them in a private non-commercial vehicle, to use designated fee areas for half the normal daily-use fee. There is no charge for the Golden Age Passport — just proof of age, 62 years and older. The Golden Access Passports are issued free of charge to those who are blind or permanently disabled. These passports are available at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Montgomery and at the District Rangers' Offices.

Other facilities available at most developed sites on the Bankhead include swimming beaches, boat ramps, and modern restrooms.

Primitive camping is allowed anywhere in the Bankhead Forest, except during gun deer hunting season, when camping is confined to the developed camping areas or primitive camps scattered about the forest. (Hikers may be permitted to primitive camp during this period with written permission of the district ranger).

Recreational Opportunities

D-4 CORINTH AND HOUSTON
The most popular recreation areas on the Bankhead are Corinth and Houston on Lake Lewis Smith. These campgrounds can accommodate tent trailers, trailers, pick-up campers and motor homes. Fishing, water skiing and swimming are available. Lifeguards are not provided, so adults must supervise children at swim sites.

D-4 CLEAR CREEK — Clear Creek is a large modern recreation area under development with expected completion in 1988. Located approximately 15 miles north of Jasper, on Lake Lewis Smith, it is accessible by State 195 and County 27. Planned development calls for 150 camp sites with electrical hookups; a picnic area, with shelter, beach and bathhouse; trails and a nature study area and a boat launch area.

D-3 NATURAL BRIDGE — This area features a sandstone bridge millions of years old formed by the erosion of a rock bluff. Trails lead through the area to observation platforms above and below the formation. Picnic tables are provided.

D-2 BRUSHY LAKE — Developments at the 33-acre Brushy Lake Recreation Area include boating (electric motors only), camping and picnicking. Short scenic trails have been developed along the lake and below high rock bluffs.

C-2 SIPSEY RIVER — This picnic area of the Sipsey River bank is nestled below high rock bluffs. Protected cove areas in the bluff line produce many interesting plant associations. This area is a launch point for seasonal canoe float trips down the Sipsey.

C-2 SIPSEY WILDERNESS AREA — In this area, hikers and boaters can find the solitude and isolation that are a part of the wilderness experience. The 12,726-acre area has swift streams, waterfalls, sandstone cliffs, undisturbed gorges, majestic hardwood trees, wildflowers and an abundance of birds and animals. Visitors can either drift down the Sipsey River in canoes or hike the trails that lead deep into the wilderness.

D-2 BLACK WARRIOR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA — This popular 88,000-acre area is managed under a cooperative agreement with the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Game and Fish Division. Hunting is allowed only on certain days and a management area license and permit are required.

C-2 SIPSEY FORK, WEST FORK RIVER — Sixty-one miles of this river and its major tributaries have been recommended for designation as part of the Wild and Scenic River's system. This river's gorge has steep slopes that display scenic rock bluffs and beautiful hardwoods and other plants.

C-2 HURRICANE CREEK SHOOTING RANGE — This facility, located at the intersection of State 33 and County 76, has a rifle range with targets at 25, 50 and 100 yards, shooting tables to accommodate 10 marksmen, and a separate archery range with 14 stations.

D-2 BLACK WARRIOR HORSE TRAILS — This trail system provides about 30 miles for horseriders to explore and enjoy the northeastern portion of the forest. Together with the Owl Creek Horse Camp, the trails provide for a leisurely day's ride or an extended stay to explore the system's variety of trail loops and scenery.

D-2 PRIMITIVE CAMPS — Five areas within Black Warrior Wildlife Management Area are provided for hunter and other primitive camping. Except for Brushy Lake, no facilities are provided at these areas.

D-2 YAKI AUTO TOUR — This self-guider has two alternate routes, going for either 34.5 or 19.5 miles. The tour begins at the junction of Alabama 33 and Forest Road 208, approximately 11 miles south of Moulton. The sights are especially beautiful during the spring flower and dogwood season and fall color season.

CAMPING REGULATIONS

By observing these regulations, you and your camping neighbors will be able to enjoy the peace and serenity of the forest environment. The purpose of the rules in effect in National Forest recreation areas is to insure your protection and maximum pleasure.

CAMPFIRES
Forests are vital to our Nation. Practice deliberate fire prevention – always!

1. Extinguish your match; break it in two before discarding.
2. Crush out your smoke; use the ashtray in your vehicle.
3. Stop to smoke. Find a safe place. Stamp out your smoke on mineral soil or rock – never in dry grasses, leaves or needles.
4. Never leave a campfire unattended – put it out before you leave.
5. Be especially careful with fire when the wind is blowing.
6. Never try to "smoke out" game. Look for game elsewhere, give that squirrel (and the forest) another chance.
7. Drown your campfire; turn the sticks and drown them a second time. Make sure the fire is out – DEAD OUT!

HIKING
Be sure to carry out what you carry in. Buried trash will only be scattered by animals in the forest. Bury your body waste in a shallow hole 4-6" deep, 100 feet from the nearest water, where soil organisms will decompose your contribution to the earth.

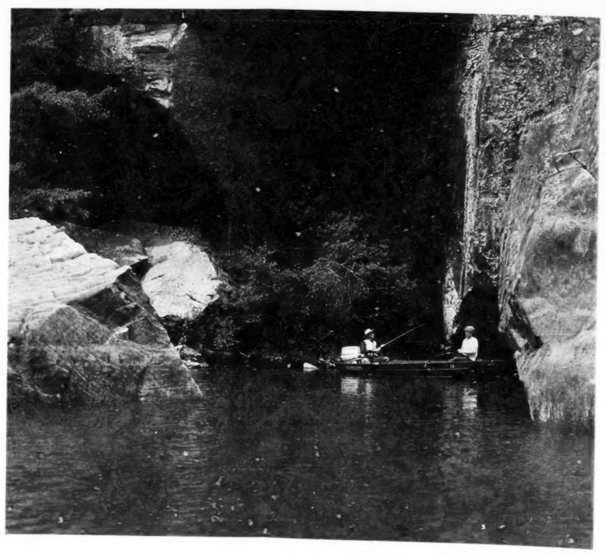
1. Leave nothing but tracks.
2. Extinguish all campfires.
3. Use an ax or cutting tool only on dead-and-down trees.
4. Never go alone.
5. Have a good map and compass.
6. Check weather forecast.
7. Check with the Alabama Game and Fish Division for licenses, open seasons, and regulations regarding hunting and fishing.
8. Carry drinking water, or treat water from streams, rivers, or lakes by boiling for at least 5 minutes.
9. Carry a first-aid kit.
10. Read regulations posted at parking areas.

HYPOTHERMIA

Hypothermia is subnormal temperature of the body. Lowering of internal temperature leads to mental and physical collapse. Hypothermia is caused by exposure to cold, and it is aggravated by wetness, wind, and exhaustion. It is the number one killer of outdoor recreationists.

Treatment:

- Get out of wind and rain
- Strip off wet clothing
- Give warm drinks, put on warm clothes and/or sleeping bag
- Build a fire to warm area



GENERAL CAMPGROUND RULES

1. In developed recreation areas, put vehicles, tents, and trailers only in places provided.
2. Occupy your campsite the first night you arrive; then don't leave it unoccupied for more than 24 hours at a time.
3. Camping is not permitted in day-use areas such as picnicking sites, swimming areas, etc.
4. Length of stay; not more than 14 consecutive days.
5. Only campers permitted inside campgrounds during established night hours (usually posted).
6. Build fires only in stoves, grills, fireplaces, and fire rings.
7. Help preserve all facilities and vegetation. Protect recreation areas for future generations.

"GOOD NEIGHBOR" CAMPING

1. Use containers provided for garbage and unburnable trash.
2. Use grill or stove to burn paper and cardboard trash.
3. Clean up your campsite before you depart.
4. Keep pets on leash – and quiet!
5. Refrain from making noises that might disturb your neighbor's sleep during night hours (10 pm-6 am).
6. Put nothing in toilets that might damage or clog them.
7. Boisterousness anytime is prohibited; this includes loud playing of radios, TV, amplifiers, musical instruments, etc.
8. Motorbikes and motorcycles are to be used only to enter or leave the area. Noisy vehicles (without mufflers) and "gunning" of engines are prohibited.
9. Observe speed limits. Drive carefully. Park only in areas provided.
10. Keep all vehicles on roads and spurs.
11. Shooting and fireworks are prohibited.

"GOOD NEIGHBOR" WATER SPORTS

1. Keep glass away from beach.
2. Keep pets away from beach and swimming area.

EMERGENCIES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Should an emergency arise, contact:

Bankhead Ranger District
P.O. Box 278
South Main Street
Double Springs, AL 35553
205-489-5111

OR
Supervisor's Office
1765 Highland Ave.
Montgomery, AL 36107
205-832-4470